



Las Vegas

BUILDING LAS VEGAS INTO A WORLD-CLASS CITY

GROWTH WATCH

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Plan the Work, Work the Plan

The Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition (SNRPC) is currently developing its work plan for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. The SNRPC, staffed by representatives from the city of Las Vegas, the city of Henderson, the city of North Las Vegas, Boulder City, Clark County, and the Clark County School District, is charged with bringing together all public jurisdictions to coordinate regional planning efforts. The city is allocated two seats on the board; Mayor Oscar B. Goodman is chairing the board for 2007-08 and Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian holds the other city of Las Vegas seat.

One of the major projects scheduled for the year's work plan is Phase II of the regional economic study. Phase I of the study, featured in the last issue of Growth Watch, examined existing economic conditions and cluster-based economic development strategies. Phase

II will address barriers to economic growth, and the expansion of weak and strong industry clusters. The intended result is a formal framework for the southern Nevada jurisdictions to share in the region's economic development.

A significant project scheduled for the

- a trail system encircling the valley (the Vias Verdes Trail).
- a regional trail network throughout the valley.
- preservation of natural washes.
- the creation of open space and heritage sites.

In the coming year, project work will determine the alignment and conceptual design of the Vias Verdes Trail and develop connections between the trail and other regional trail systems and open spaces.

Another project planned for the coming year is the creation of a school master plan for each of the individual jurisdictions in the valley with the Clark County School District. The coalition will also examine the potential for co-locating public facilities in order to use

public land more efficiently. SNRPC will also develop a review of sustainability issues in relationship to the existing regional policy plan.

The SNRPC work plan also includes ongoing tasks such as the development of

— CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



upcoming year is the implementation of the Regional Open Space Plan. The plan, adopted by the Coalition Board in July 2006, includes five significant components:

- preservation of mountain and desert backdrops.

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Round Seven Projects Selected by BLM

Two city of Las Vegas projects were selected for funding by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the most recent cycle referred to as Round Seven. The city submitted nine projects for funds from the public land auctions established by the Southern Nevada Public Lands Act (SNPLMA). Key departments such as Planning & Development and Leisure Services sponsor and nominate projects and the SNPLMA parks and trails construction management is the purview of the Public Works Department. The two selected projects are:

Open Space Desert Preserve Trail

The project is located on the northern portion of a city-owned 80-acre parcel on the northeast corner of Alta Drive and Hualapai Way. This project will preserve vital open space, connect the Red Rock Trail and other future trails, minimize disruption to the natural desert, and maintain a significant existing wash that is a Regional Flood Control facility. This proposed low-maintenance fitness/nature trail will include landscaping, shaded benches and rest areas that overlook the surrounding area.

Las Vegas Springs Preserve – Phase Two: Trails and Historic Railroad Cottages

This Las Vegas Valley Water District project is sponsored by the city of Las



The Las Vegas Springs Preserve will open June 8, 2007 with walking trails and energy-efficient buildings for public use.

Vegas. Funding will be used to construct walking trails, landscaping and interpretive signage linking the railroad cottages, the Nevada State Museum, and the northern section of the site to other key elements of the Springs Preserve. Phase Two of the Preserve Trail System, which includes the Exploration Loop Trail, the Cienega Loop Extension and associated landscaping will complement the Preserve's educational and recreational dynamics and allow visitors to further explore the 180-acre Preserve site.

On March 1, 2007 the BLM announced the opening of Round Eight where an estimated \$25 million will be available to nine entity groups. The city is currently in the process of finalizing the project list, which includes approval by the City Council at their April 18th meeting.

Applicants will be able to submit stronger, more detailed project proposals now that pre-proposal planning (PPP) funding has been made available. Pre-design studies, site plans and other tasks related to the feasibility and conceptual design of the project can be done before the project is presented for SNPLMA funding. Three of the four city projects submitted for PPP funding were approved:

Pre-Proposal Planning Projects

Doolittle Park Renovation	\$225,000
Vias Verdes Phase I	\$295,000
Las Vegas Wash Park Phase 2	\$225,000

These PPP projects will most likely go forward for Round Nine funding consideration in 2008.

PLAN THE WORK – CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

work force housing legislation, support for the regional land-use data base and population estimates, conformity review of regionally-significant projects, and the development of land-use projections for the valley.

The work plan is scheduled for final approval by the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Board on May 24, 2007.

An additional topic for the board will be the coordination of usage of

parks and recreational facilities within the valley by the area's municipalities and the Clark County School District. Two members of the SNRPC board are former members of the school district's Board of Trustees.



Las Vegas Wash Trail Becoming a Reality

The efforts of the city of Las Vegas to transform the Las Vegas Wash through the city limits into a recreational greenbelt is making serious headway. The Las Vegas Wash Trail is planned as a recreational corridor along the wash that will extend more than 20 miles and eventually link to several spur trails from the east and west. It will connect Floyd Lamb Park in northwest Las Vegas to the Clark County Desert Wetland Park and the Lake Mead National Recreation area.

Last October the city of Las Vegas received \$500,000 from the state of Nevada's Conservation and Resource Protection Grant Program for the acquisition of 3.91 acres at Harris Avenue and Marion Drive for a neighborhood park and a section of the trail. The city of Las Vegas matched the state grant with a little over \$1.1 million in funding received from the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act (SNPLMA) program.

The neighborhood park and trailhead will include a play area, picnic areas, landscaping, paved walkways and a restroom that will serve the nearby residents as well as users of the trail. A portion of the trail is directly across the street from Dell Robison Middle School where the footbridge across the wash provides access for more than 1,500 students and their families.

Another key piece, a 4.91 acre parcel at Sandhill Road and Owens Avenue, was secured in March 2007 with funds through SNPLMA. The site will become a neighborhood park in a part of the city's Ward 3 that has been underserved with park facilities. Approximately \$2.4 million in SNPLMA funds will also be used for the design and construction of



Illustration of part of the Las Vegas Wash and parcels to be developed into trails and neighborhood parks.

trail improvements, trailhead area and the neighborhood park. It may also include a trailhead and rest area on the city parcel just west and across the wash from this site. The design phase will take approximately six months and construction could start in the first quarter of 2008.

Operations Department and its Real Estate and Utilities Division, and the Trust for Public Land (TPL). TPL is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving land for people to enjoy as parks, community gardens, historic sites, rural lands and other natural places.



A section of the Las Vegas wash trail system to be developed.

The acquisition team for both sites included the Planning & Development Department, Field

In March 2007 The Nevada Division of State Lands awarded \$730,000 in Question 1 Program funds to the city of Las Vegas for the construction of the wash trail improvements from Owens Avenue to Charleston Boulevard. The total budget for this section is \$1,838,800 and construction is anticipated to begin this fall with

projected completion in the summer of 2008. The balance of the budget will be paid with city and SNPLMA funds.



Las Vegas Scenic Byway to Receive Restored Neon Sign

The Centennial Committee has appropriated \$250,000 to the Planning & Development Department to fund the restoration of a historic neon sign and place it in the Las Vegas Boulevard median as part of the Scenic Byway program. Las Vegas Boulevard was designated a Nevada Scenic Byway in 2001 to preserve the historic neon signs that have contributed to the street's world renown. The Centennial Committee is funded in large part, by the special Las Vegas license plate the State of Nevada offered as part of the centennial celebration.

The Planning & Development Department has partnered with the Neon Museum to select a historic sign for restoration. The selected sign is a palm tree from the old Polynesian Resort and Casino that only lasted a few months on the Strip in the 1960's. The sign will be restored to its original condition and be placed in front of the Natural History Museum in the Cultural Corridor. This is the first of several restored historic signs that are planned for Las Vegas Boulevard. The plan calls for historic neon signs to be placed in the Las

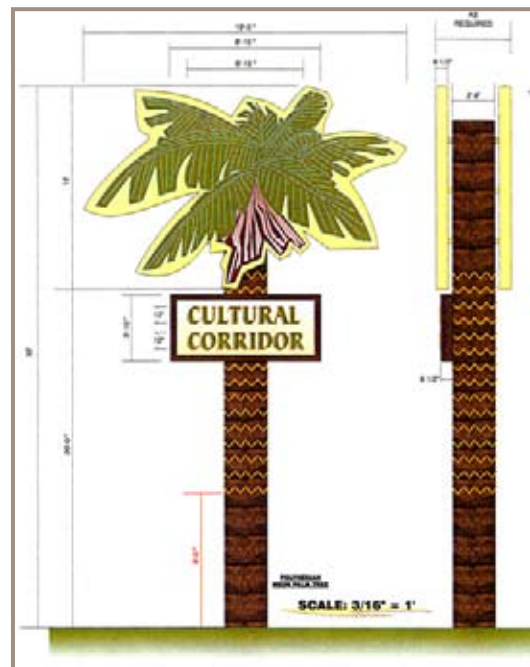
Vegas Boulevard median between Washington Avenue on the north to Sahara Avenue on the south.

The Planning & Development Department has the responsibility to oversee the Las Vegas Boulevard Scenic Byway. An annual survey is conducted of all signage along the boulevard to make sure the owners are maintaining the existing neon signs. Last year, there was over an 80 percent voluntary compliance rate. The owners understand that it is in their best interest to maintain the neon signs and at the same time contribute to the scenic quality of the byway.

A \$235,431 National Scenic Byway Grant has been applied for to restore two additional signs. These signs would also be located in the Cultural Corridor if approved. The city will find out this autumn if the application was successful.

For additional information on the Las Vegas Boulevard Scenic Byway, please contact the program manager, Yorgo Kagafas, American Institute of Certified Planners, at 229-6196.

The old Polynesian Resort and Casino (top) and the Bow and Arrow Motel (bottom) proposed restorations.



New Board Members Appointed to Local APA Chapter

The southern Nevada section of the American Planning Association (APA) has named two city of Las Vegas officials to its board of directors. Glenn Trowbridge, a city planning commissioner, has been

appointed to the board as its local planning commission appointee. Flinn Fagg, planning manager with the city's Planning and Development Department, was appointed as Assistant Director.

City of Las Vegas Planning Commissioner Glenn Trowbridge has been named to the local APA's board of directors.





The Neon Museum



The Neon Museum recently received another grant from the Nevada Commission on Cultural Affairs. The \$100,000 grant will go toward the reassembly and renovation of the La Concha Motel Lobby and an addition to include small offices and public restrooms. When completed, the structure and the addition will serve as the visitor's center and gateway to the Neon Boneyard Park, the open-air exhibit of historic neon signs.



Section of La Concha rooftop being moved to the Neon Boneyard.

The Neon Museum has raised over \$1 million toward the completion of the project. This total includes last year's commission grant of \$240,000 and matching grants of \$300,000 and \$100,000 respectively from the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority and the Las Vegas Centennial Commission. Another \$1.9 million needs to be raised to finish the building, the addition, the Neon Boneyard Park improvements, infrastructure and landscaping.

The Neon Museum Building team includes the Friedmutter Architectural Group who are providing their services on a pro bono basis. The team is partnering with the city of Las Vegas on the Neon Park, funded with Southern Nevada Public Lands Act funds. City team consultant, Griffin Structures and their sub-contractors are working with Friedmutter to achieve a unified design for both the Neon Museum and the Neon Park projects. The Neon Museum will realize some cost savings in needed infrastructure because of this partnership.

Construction will begin on site preparation and foundation work in September 2007 and will be completed by the end of 2007. Major tasks include moving all the neon signs to a temporary off-site location so the existing neon boneyard sites can be graded.

The Neon Museum continues to seek monetary contributions, grants, and in-kind donations from local service providers. According to Facility Chair Dorothy Wright, "The recent publicity and public support that the Neon Museum generated from moving the La Concha lobby was heightened further when the museum was able to save the much-loved Stardust sign and move it to the boneyard. The outpouring of support has been very encouraging."

Dates to Remember

APRIL 2007

American City Quality Month

MAY 16, 2007

City Recognition of National Historic Preservation Month

9:00 a.m. Council Chambers

Las Vegas City Hall

400 E. Stewart Ave.

Las Vegas, NV 89101

MAY 19, 2007

Cultural History Fair

Old Mormon Fort

500 E. Washington Ave.

Las Vegas, NV 89101

MAY 19, 2007

Helldorado Days Parade

7:00pm

Visit www.lasvegasnevada.gov

for route information

JUNE 8, 2007

Grand Opening

Las Vegas Springs Preserve

Visit www.lvspingspreserve.org

for more information

OCTOBER 23-26, 2007

Urban Land Institute

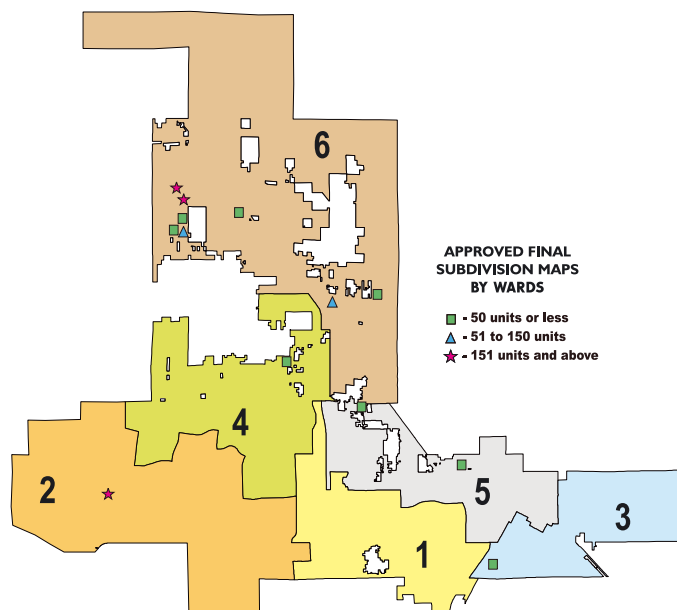
National Conference

APRIL 27 – MAY 1, 2008

The American Planning Association 2008

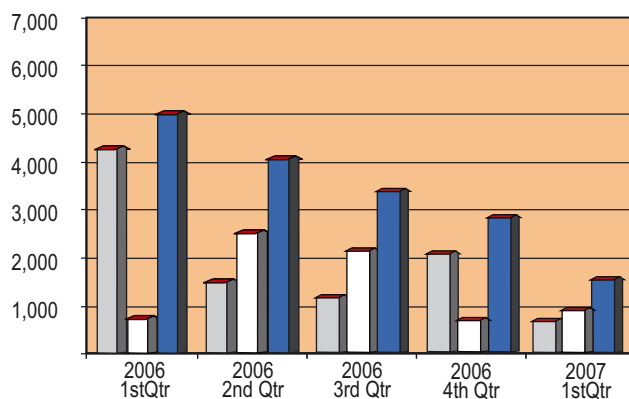
National Conference





■ Tentative □ Final Maps ■ Total

Approved Subdivision Lots



Source: city of Las Vegas

Leading Economic Indicators For Clark County

"The Southern Nevada Index of Leading Indicators moved down again, a .83 percent decline for January measured from the same month a year ago. Seven of the 10 series contributed negatively to the index. Permitting-activity measures showed sharp declines from the robust levels of a year ago. Though the index continues to decline, the recent rate of modest declines shows insufficient momentum to signal a recession. All in all, we believe the weakness in housing, which has to date not passed to other sectors with any veracity, will only push the trend in the economy to a slower-growth trajectory."

Source: UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research

Approved Subdivision Lots			
	Tentative Maps	Final Maps	Total
1st Qtr-2006	4,357	757	5,114
2nd Qtr-2006	1,539	2,611	4,150
3rd Qtr-2006	1,261	2,250	3,511
4th Qtr-2006	2,175	767	2,942
1st Qtr-2007	603	892	1,495
% Chg Last Qtr	-72.3	16.3	-49.2
% Chg Last Year	-86.2	17.8	-70.8

Leading Economic Indicators						
CLARK COUNTY SERIES	DATE	UNITS	LATEST PERIOD	CHANGE PREVIOUS PERIOD	CHANGE YEAR AGO	CONTRIBUTION TO INDEX *
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING						
Units Permitted	Jan-07	#Units Permitted	1,356	-35.73%	-67.33%	0.007%
Permit Valuation	Jan-07	Dollars	\$ 260,783,188	3.94%	-64.82%	0.024%
COMMERCIAL BUILDING						
Permits	Jan-07	#Units Permitted	75	-17.58%	-10.71%	-0.002%
Permit Valuation	Jan-07	Dollars	\$ 93,762,757	-55.66%	-55.64%	0.001%
TAXABLE SALES	Jan-07	Dollars	\$ 2,759,693,008	-18.96%	0.98%	0.090%
McCARRAN AIRPORT	Jan-07	Passengers Enplaned/Deplaned	3,669,613	-3.47%	5.90%	-0.053%
GALLONS OF GASOLINE	Jan-07	Thousands of Gallons	66,921,828	-0.72%	-4.10%	0.020%
GROSS GAMING REVENUE	Jan-07	Dollars	\$ 967,777,123	6.51%	-1.98%	-0.147%
CONVENTIONS HELD						
Visitor Volume	Jan-07	People	3,156,419	3.34%	-0.60%	-0.121%
Attendance	Jan-07	People	780,542	382.38%	5.72%	0.003%
OVERALL CHANGE IN LEADING INDICATOR **	Mar-07		133.17	-0.18%	-0.83%	-0.18%

* The contribution to the index is a net-weighted average of each series after adjustment for seasonal variation.

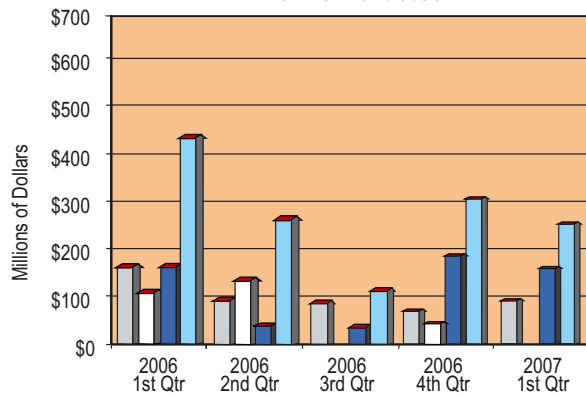
** The index is a six month forecast (July 1, 2007) from the month of the data (January 1, 2007) and four months from the month of the series (March 1, 2007).

Source: UNLV Center for Business and Economic Research



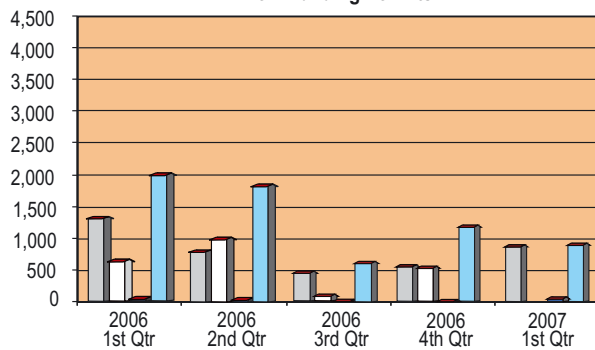
Single Family Multi-Family Commercial Total

New Permit Valuation



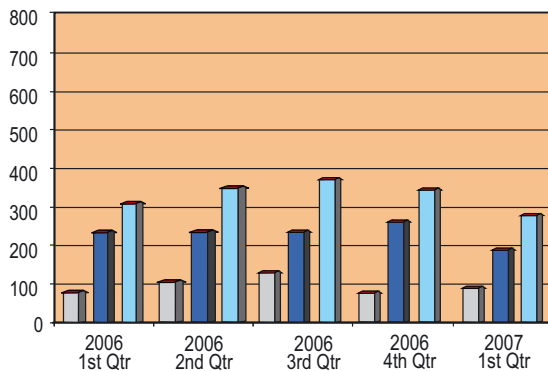
New Permit Valuation				
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Commercial	Total
1st Qtr-2006	\$165,047,208	\$105,823,134	\$165,481,200	\$436,351,542
2nd Qtr-2006	\$ 93,598,507	\$132,167,796	\$ 37,404,046	\$263,170,349
3rd Qtr-2006	\$ 63,346,600	\$ 15,812,649	\$ 41,240,464	\$120,399,713
4th Qtr-2006	\$ 64,426,957	\$ 37,683,675	\$163,286,302	\$265,396,934
1st Qtr-2007	\$ 77,682,315	--	\$136,901,985	\$214,584,300
% Chg Last Qtr	20.6	-100.0	-16.2	-19.1
% Chg Last Year	-52.9	-100.0	-17.3	-50.8

New Building Permits



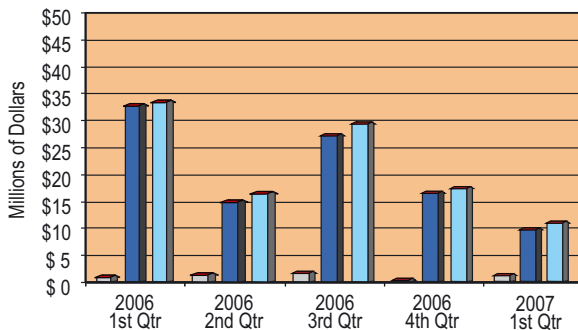
New Building Permits				
	Single Family	Multi-Family	Commercial	Total
1st Qtr-2006	1,275	635	49	1,959
2nd Qtr-2006	760	983	39	1,782
3rd Qtr-2006	487	125	45	657
4th Qtr-2006	476	457	40	973
1st Qtr-2007	687	--	25	712
% Chg Last Qtr	44.3	-100.0	-37.5	-26.8
% Chg Last Year	-46.1	100.0	-49.0	-63.7

Additions and Remodels



Additions and Remodels			
	Single Family	Commercial	Total
1st Qtr-2006	72	255	297
2nd Qtr-2006	103	231	334
3rd Qtr-2006	128	227	355
4th Qtr-2006	78	251	329
1st Qtr-2007	86	177	263
% Chg Last Qtr	10.3	-29.5	-20.1
% Chg Last Year	19.4	-21.3	-11.4

Additions and Remodel Valuation



Additions and Remodel Valuation			
	Single Family	Commercial	Total
1st Qtr-2006	\$ 2,196,318	\$ 81,800,815	\$ 83,997,133
2nd Qtr-2006	\$ 3,006,021	\$ 37,613,519	\$ 40,619,540
3rd Qtr-2006	\$ 6,245,816	\$ 78,874,807	\$ 85,120,623
4th Qtr-2006	\$ 2,466,733	\$ 48,425,365	\$ 50,892,098
1st Qtr-2007	\$ 2,930,470	\$ 26,569,075	\$ 29,499,545
% Chg Last Qtr	18.8	-45.1	-42.0
% Chg Last Year	33.4	-67.5	-64.9

Source: city of Las Vegas (including subdivision information)



Mark R. Vincent

City of Las Vegas Director, Finance & Business Services

Mark R. Vincent has been the director of Finance and Business Services for the city of Las Vegas since 1998. He is responsible for the financial functions of budgeting, accounting, and treasury and for the divisions of Business Licensing and Purchasing and Contracts.

Prior to his appointment as director, Mark served 17 years with several federal Department of Energy contractors. Vincent, a licensed certified public accountant in Nevada, worked for several national certified public accounting firms prior to his employment with federal contractors. He graduated in 1978 with honors from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and earned a Bachelor of Science in business administration.

Vincent is involved in practically every aspect of city business at one time or another, making the job extremely interesting and challenging.

"The job demands interaction at all levels of the city," Vincent said. "People and relationships are the key to everything we do at the city."

As an example, the Planning & Development Department initiated the integration of all the city's planning documents and the city's capital improvement plan. This critical integration could only have been



Mark Vincent, city of Las Vegas director of Finance & Business Services, enjoys the challenges involved with the variety of projects.

accomplished with Vincent's astute expertise and active support.

Vincent's goal is to leverage the city's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems into real-time decision tools for managers. This is especially important as the city moves into the next phase of strategic planning, Performance Plus – Managing for Results. Ultimately, he'd like the city to be known for its best-in-class integration of ERP data bases with decision support tools that will bridge the gap between strategic planning and results.

In addition to professional associations, Vincent is very involved in Little League and Boy Scouts. He and his wife, Denise, have raised five sons in Las Vegas and recently have been licensed as foster parents. They are awaiting their first placement and look forward to sharing their home with their foster children.

Las Vegas GROWTH WATCH



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Councilman Steve Wolfson, Ward 2

Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, Ward 1

Councilman Steven D. Ross, Ward 6

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